



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/792,016	03/03/2004	Anthony Jay Cook	24991-36	4279

7590 12/22/2004

John Hardaway
NEXSEN PRUET JACOBS & POLLARD, LLC
P.O. Box 10107
Greenville, SC 29603

EXAMINER

BASINGER, SHERMAN D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3617

DATE MAILED: 12/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/792,016

Applicant(s)

COOK, ANTHONY JAY

Examiner

Sherman D. Basinger

Art Unit

3617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/30/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 1 and 6 are objected to because of the following informalities: in claim 1, line 29 it appears that "of said platform" should be deleted; in claim 6, line 32 it appears that "said second pair of" should be deleted; and in claim 6, line 35, it appears that "said upper ends of said second pair of upright spars" should be --said lower ends of said first pair of upright spars-. Appropriate correction is required.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-12 are allowed.
3. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter.

Claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom are indicated as being allowable in view of the following limitations found in claim 1:

a lift linkage including a pair of laterally spaced parallel upper links having first correspondence ends pivotally connected, respectively, to said first part of said landing for horizontal swinging movement about a first pair of vertical axes and for vertical swinging about horizontal axes lying in a horizontal plane and having second corresponding ends pivotally connected, respectively, to said second segment of said platform for horizontal swinging movement about a second pair of vertical axes and for vertical swinging movement about horizontal axes lying in a horizontal plane,

Art Unit: 3617

a pair of laterally spaced parallel lower links having first corresponding ends pivotally connected, respectively, to said first part of said landing for horizontal swinging movement about said first pair of vertical axes and for vertical swinging movement about horizontal pivot axes lying in a horizontal plane and of said platform having second corresponding ends pivotally connected, respectively, to said second segment for horizontal swinging movement about said second pair of vertical axes and for vertical swinging movement about horizontal axes lying in a horizontal plane.

Claim 6 and the claims depending therefrom are indicated as being allowable in view of the following limitations found in claim 6:

a first pair of laterally spaced upright spars pivotally supported at their upper and lower ends by said laterally spaced vertical walls on third and fourth vertical axis

a second pair of laterally spaced upright spars pivotally supported at their upper and lower ends by said laterally spaced upstanding structures on fifth and sixth vertical axes

a lift linkage including a pair of laterally spaced parallel upper links having first correspondence ends pivotally connected, respectively, to said upper ends of said first pair of upright spars on fifth and sixth horizontal axes and having second corresponding ends pivotally connected to said upper ends of said second pair of said second pair of upright spars on a seventh and eighth horizontal axes,

a pair of laterally spaced parallel lower links having first corresponding ends pivotally connected respectively, to said upper ends of said second pair of upright spars on ninth and tenth horizontal axes and having second corresponding ends pivotally

Art Unit: 3617

connected, respectively, to said lower ends of said second pair of upright spars on eleventh and twelfth horizontal axes.

None of the prior art of record including Bougaran, which discloses a conveyance with an elongated ramp and a parallelogram linkage, taken alone or in combination disclose the lift linkage as defined in the above limitations.

Conclusion

4. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

See paragraph 1 above.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.


A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sherman D. Basinger whose telephone number is 703-308-1139. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (6:00-2:30 ET).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Samuel J. Morano can be reached on 703-308-0230. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3617

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Sherman D. Basinger
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3617
12/17/04

Sdb
12/17/04